

The Voice of Religion

The Views of Christian Religious Leaders on the
Persecution of the Jews in Germany
by the National Socialists

And one of the scribes came, and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, What commandment is the first of all? Jesus answered, The first is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God, the Lord is one; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. The second is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

—Mark 12:28-31.

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In the following pages there are presented the views of religious leaders of the Catholic and Protestant churches both in the United States and in England; and the opinions expressed in the editorials of the Christian religious press of America regarding the reign of terror that has been instituted against the Jews in Germany under the rule of Adolf Hitler and the National Socialist Party.

These views express the verdict of the religious conscience of the Christian, English speaking peoples on the persecution of hundreds of thousands of Germans who have adhered, or whose ancestors adhered, to the Jewish faith.

Index

Statements by Leaders of Christian Opinion

Bishop William T. Manning	5
Hilaire Belloc	6
The Archbishop of York	7
The Archbishop of Canterbury	7
Dr. S. Parkes Cadman	8
Michael Williams	8
Dean Inge	9

Resolution of Protest

Text of Resolution Signed by 1200 Clergymen.....	10
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Editorials in the Christian Religious Press

The Adult Bible Class Monthly (Methodist Episcopal)....	11
The Baptist Courier (Baptist)	11
The Christian Advocate (Methodist)	12
The Christian Century (Undenominational)	13
Christian Herald (Interdenominational)	13
The Christian Leader (Universalist)	14
The Christian Register (Unitarian)	14
The Churchman (Episcopalian)	16
The Congregationalist (Congregationalist)	16
The Epworth Herald (Methodist)	18
Extension Magazine (Catholic)	18
The Living Church (Episcopalian)	19
The Lutheran (Lutheran)	20
The New Outlook (United Church of Canada)	20
Our Portion (Catholic)	21
The Presbyterian Banner (Presbyterian)	21
Reformed Church Messenger (Reformed Church)	22
The Religious Telescope (Church of United Brethren in Christ)	23
Revelation (Undenominational)	24
The Sabbath Recorder (Seventh Day Baptist)	25
Southern Churchman (Protestant Episcopalian)	25
The Sunday School Times (Interdenominational)	26
Truth (Catholic)	26
The United Presbyterian (Presbyterian)	28
The Watchman-Examiner (Baptist)	29
The World Tomorrow (Interdenominational)	29
Zions Herald (Methodist)	30

Statements by Leaders of Christian Opinion

Bishop William T. Manning

We are here to assert together the great basic truth that God has made of one blood all nations of men on the whole earth, and that, because we have one Divine Creator and Father, we are all brothers. That is the foundation truth of all the religion of every one of us, and it is the foundation of all that is noble and true and worthy in human life.

Upon that fact of the common Divine Fatherhood, we base the truth of our common brotherhood, our common humanity, the equality of all in the sight of God, the equal right of every human being to justice, to liberty, and to life.

And we are assembled here because this basic truth of humanity, this common right of all men, has, we believe, been transgressed. This right has, we believe, been transgressed by anti-Semitic propaganda and inflammatory utterance, and also by acts of violence and persecution.

We are told that these acts have been exaggerated, that some of the reports are untrue, and that any further acts of this nature will be prevented.

We must earnestly trust that these utterances will be justified.

Without claiming to know all the facts, and with nothing but good-will toward the German people, we are here to lift up our voices against the possibility of any such acts anywhere, and against any policy, or propaganda, or utterance, that might encourage or induce such acts.

We are here to condemn and denounce racial or religious persecution, whoever may be guilty of it, in Germany or elsewhere, and we must not forget the tyrannical and cruel persecution carried on against those representing all religious faiths, and the brutal attempt to stamp out all religion, which still continues under the Soviet Government in Russia. Lifting up our voices against such wrongs, we cannot be silent against the tyrannies and persecutions of the Soviet Government.

None of us, whether we are Jews or Christians, none of us who call ourselves Americans, have the right to be indifferent to such acts. Such action against any race or group of men anywhere in the world is the concern of all of us because those men are our brothers and have the same rights before God that we have.

I say again that we have nothing but good-will toward Germany. We make our protest here for the sake of Germany

herself, because we wish to give our moral support to her right-thinking people.

We feel confident that the real Germany is as deeply opposed to acts of racial or religious persecution as any of us are. We make our appeal to the real sentiment and the true idealism of the great German people and we believe that these acts will be suppressed.

All of us today are longing and hoping for the advancement of peace and brotherhood in the world.

The Christian religion calls upon men not only for justice but for brotherliness toward all, and in these days of world crisis we see clearly that we must sweep out the spirit of hate and fear and banish war and draw all nations together in brotherhood and fellowship if civilization is to be saved.

Race prejudice, oppression, religious persecution, have no right to exist anywhere in this world, and we have no right to condone or countenance them.

Hilaire Belloc *in "America"*

Now I confess I cannot myself see how any Catholic can support or condone what has happened to the Jews in this predominantly Protestant country governed from Berlin. I am not speaking of the atrocities committed. . . . But I am here speaking of what has admittedly been done and that, it seems to me, is definitely opposed to good morals. Men who have passed their lives earning their living by their professions in a particular trade have been reduced, through no fault of their own and merely by the accident of birth, to penury at a moment's notice. How can that possibly be excused?

What excuse is it to say that in such and such a profession such and such a majority was Jewish? The Jews attained their position in that profession in open competition; everybody knew that they were Jews; they worked under the handicap of their unpopularity (which always attaches to their race in that part of Europe where they lived, though it does not yet attach to their race in this happier society to which we belong). I should have thought that the proposition was elementary; when a profession is thrown open to such and such candidates, when they pass the required tests, when they advance in their careers after passing these tests, what possible right can you have to go back on your word and deprive them of that which you have promised them by the social contract into which you have entered?

But there is more than this: there are very many cases in which not only an implied social contract is involved, but also a direct personal contract. For instance, I read of one distinguished professor, to mention only one out of very many,

who had a definite contract to occupy the position which he held and to draw the salary of it for so many years, presumably with a pension thereto attached. Without compensation, without warning, the man is suddenly thrown onto the streets. If that is not theft, what is?

As it seems to me, particular and flagrant injustice of this kind affects not only the individual who suffers from it nor only the unhappy men who perpetrate the outrage, but also those who are silent in the presence of it. They themselves will be poisoned if they do not protest, for it is their duty to protest.

The Archbishop of York

Racial persecution is a blot on any civilization or culture. It is our duty to try to understand the causes and character of the Nazi revolution in Germany, which has secured the support of many of the best elements in that nation. But even if understanding leads to sympathy in general, that sympathy must be marred by such acts of persecution against Jews, pacifists and others as have sullied the record of the revolution hitherto. It is very important that the German Government and leaders should appreciate the alienation of the most sympathetic of British citizens which these acts have effected. Whatever may be pleaded in extenuation of offences committed in the crisis of a revolution, no condemnation can be too strong for the racial persecution and organized terrorism which have undoubtedly been characteristic of one aspect of the revolution lately brought about.

The Archbishop of Canterbury

We all know how at this moment, as we sit here in peace and security, the members of the Jewish Community in Germany are being driven from all the State services, from posts which they have acquired by right of their capacity in the law, in medicine, in the Universities, even, as Mr. Garvin once said, from the concert room where music was once supposed to be the common language of all mankind. Even if they are allowed to remain in business or profession, they are increasingly deprived of any chances of maintaining a livelihood, and I would ask you to think, because this is what has been increasingly brought home to myself from what I hear about the condition of affairs in Germany, of the families now in hiding from persecution and proscription in all the streets of German cities, suffering agonies of apprehension and of humiliation; and I think with particular indignation of what I have heard about the treatment of Jewish children, for in the schools in Germany they are being kept apart from other children as if they were something unclean. Imagine the effect upon those children, themselves having had borne in upon them at the most tender stage of their lives that they are

not fit to be associated with other Germans, and imagine still more the effect upon the German children of the non-Jewish race in being thus at the very start of their lives educated in contempt and scorn of their fellow-creatures.

Now I do not wish to dwell upon these facts, but if it be true that on this scale injustice is abroad violating these elementary instincts of our common humanity, then it is impossible either here or, I should have thought, in any part of the civilized world, for those citizens to whom these things are part of the heritage which they most constantly prize, to remain silent. They are bound to speak out if only for the relief of their own conscience.

Dr. S. Parkes Cadman

In the tense desperation of today high-strung nerves and pitched emotions make for hysterical sentimentalism. Knowing this, the coterie of the Nazi staff is hoodwinking the exhausted people by the anti-Semitic campaign. "The natural enmity of the peasant against the Jew must be incited to fury," asserts the book of instructions to local leaders.

Anti-Semitism in Germany will die when the citizens of that splendid nation awaken to the new democracy. Civilization has passed the day of homogeneous tribal states. Thoughtful leaders of mankind now prize diversity of cultural groups in the interaction between which every group is stimulated to new growth, to the honor and glory of the nation. The present movement, as all anti-Semitic agitation in the past, can hardly be judged by intelligent and sympathetic critics as other than a shame and a disgrace to Germany, a blot on German culture, a danger to German unity and a flagrant injustice to the Jews themselves.

Michael Williams

For the Nazi government to deny what the German correspondents of the world press reported, or for the apologists for or the sympathizers with Hitlerism's treatment of the Jews to accept and spread the fatuous denials of these facts by the Nazi government, is one of the most singular chapters of our fantastic times. It also indicates to what an extent the anti-Semitism which was fanned and fed for years by Hitler and his first supporters until it broke into a flaming torrent of rage and hatred, exists in other parts of the world.

The present situation of the Jews in Germany is desperate and deplorable beyond any words of mine adequately to describe. When all the facts are known to the free men and women of democratic countries they will be aware beyond the shadow of a doubt that Israel in Germany is suffering under a bondage comparable only to that under which the fore-

fathers of the German Jews groaned in Egypt and in Babylon. I ask you not to be deceived or let your followers be led astray by the false denials of these facts by the Hitler regime, nor by the paid or voluntary propagandists for the regime, nor by the flitting visitors to Germany, certain journalists among them, who seem to learn only what the dictatorship desires them to believe. The facts prove them absolutely wrong or else ignorant, or else, what is worse, deliberate and even criminal liars.

Dean Inge

It is rather distressing, that the Jewish nation—a nation which has done so much for the world—should even now be hated and persecuted.

Why the new German Government should behave in this strange manner I cannot even guess. It is foolish as well as wrong; for the Jews have stood by the graves of all their oppressors in turn.

What we were to look for was the secret of the unique greatness of the Jewish people. In what sense, and for what reason, were they "chosen people?" Shall we not say it was because of their indomitable faith? They worshipped a God who revealed his name, that is, his character, as "I will be to you."

What will He be to them? They did not know. They guessed. They staked their lives, their fortunes, their hopes, on their guesses, and they guessed wrong again and again.

What will He be to them? The head of a pure theocracy? No. The power behind the throne in a theocratic monarchy? No. The Saviour of a devout and exclusive nation of worshippers? No. All their hopes were disappointed; yet they still hoped on.

Goethe speaks of the unconquerable levity of the human race, which goes on cherishing illusions twenty times proved fallacious. But it is not levity. It is something much nobler. "Though he slay me, yet I will trust in him." It is the last word of Jewish nationalism.

Resolution of Protest

Written by the Reverend Doctor Henry Emerson Fosdick and
Signed by 1200 Christian Clergymen in United States and Canada

We, a group of Christian ministers, are profoundly disturbed by the plight of our Jewish brethren in Germany. That no doubt may exist anywhere concerning our Christian conscience in the matter, we are constrained, alike with sorrow and indignation, to voice our protests against the present ruthless persecution of the Jews under Herr Hitler's regime.

We acknowledge the grievous provocations which have led to the German revolution: especially the condemnation of unborn generations of German children to economic servitude by the terms of the peace. Our nation shares part of the blame for this situation. We understand the accumulated resentment which has led German youth to undertake at all costs the reconstruction of the nation and its re-establishment in unity and power. We claim no right to censor the methods by which this shall be accomplished simply because they are not our own.

We acknowledge, also, the existence of racial and religious prejudice in America, against which we have repeatedly taken our stand, but all the more on that account do we deplore a retreat from gains once made in Germany while we continue to struggle for human rights in the United States.

For weeks we waited patiently, refusing to believe stories of a State policy against the Jews. Now, however, having in our possession testimony to the facts, which seems to us unimpeachable, we cannot forbear speaking. Herr Hitler for years has preached relentless hatred against Jews. One of the fundamental doctrines of the Nazis, explicitly acknowledged by them, is that the Jews are poisonous bacilli in the blood of Germany to be stamped out like a plague. What the followers of Herr Hitler have proclaimed they now practice. Systematically they are prosecuting a "cold pogrom" of inconceivable cruelty against our Jewish brethren, driving them from positions of trust and leadership, depriving them of civil and economic rights, deliberately condemning them, if they survive at all, to survive as an outlawed and excommunicated people, and threatening Jews with massacre if they so much as protest. It is our considered judgment that the endeavor of the German Nazis to humiliate a whole section of the human family threatens the civilized world with the return of medieval barbarity.

We deplore the consequences that must fall upon the Jews, upon Christendom, which permits this ruthless persecution, and in particular upon Germany itself. For, protesting thus against Herr Hitler's anti-Semitism, we conceive ourselves to be speaking as the sincere friends of Germany.

Editorials in the Christian Religious Press

THE ADULT BIBLE CLASS MONTHLY

The Weakness of Strength

In modern life it is more difficult than ever to keep one's strength from becoming weakness. One should love one's family; but it is easy so to love one's family as to discriminate against other families, to lessen their opportunities and increase their handicaps. Family love, too, is easily evolved into pride, power, and possession. The same thing is true of love of country. Patriotism, however, can and does often become, as Samuel Johnson said, "the refuge of a scoundrel." The present excesses in Germany override all human considerations in the name of the fatherland, humiliating, threatening, driving out of business, politics, journalism, and other professions a race that has lived in Germany for a thousand years, yet is now called and treated as foreigners by the party in power. Such a platform as that of the Hitler regime is hardly believable in this day. But this is a revelation of the misuse of the purest of intentions for hurtful ends. The most idealistic citizen may become a party to the exploitation of neighboring peoples through the selfishness of his nation's program and policy.

—Gilbert S. Cox.

THE BAPTIST COURIER

The Jews in Nazi Germany

When Hitler came into power in Germany there came at the same time a persecution of the Jews that shocked the civilized world. A great many of them were killed, more were violently beaten and maltreated and a larger number still were thrown into jails. All these things, along with a boycott against all Jewish business, came when the Nazi came into power. Since then there has been a steady movement against the Jews that were in civic and political offices, and even against those who were in the professions of teaching, of the law and medicine. The outcry in all the world that this persecution brought forth made some impression on the Nazis. They said that the reports of the persecution were greatly exaggerated, and that these reports had come from the enemies of Germany.

Many of us hoped that this reply of the Nazis would prove to be correct. For it is difficult to believe that a people so highly civilized as the German, so kindly and so intelligent, could possibly produce a party of persecutors. It seemed to be a lapse into a medieval mind that was impossible in this

age. Such was our hope, and American people generally were ready to believe that a few instances of violence by irresponsible people had been exaggerated into a persecution of a whole race of people. But this explanation, however willing our people were to accept it, will have to be rejected. What the Jews in Germany have suffered has not only not been exaggerated, it has not been fully revealed. The Nazis are a persecuting party.

The American Jews, who have been profoundly sympathetic with their people in Germany, have made a thorough investigation and have published the facts in a pamphlet entitled "The Jews in Nazi Germany." It can be had from The American Jewish Committee, New York. One might think that a defense of Jews by Jews would be partial. But he will not think this after reading the pamphlet. Those who prepared the pamphlet, with its body of facts, were aware that they would have to be careful and reserved. They were both.

This pamphlet not only reveals the truth of the reports about the persecutions in particular places, but it shows that this persecution has been prepared for and produced by years of propaganda of the most evil and violent kind, and has been, not merely in a few places, but throughout Germany. The actual violence against individual Jews may not have occurred throughout Germany; but there has been a systematic movement by laws and decrees, to drive the Jews out of office, out of the professions, out of the schools, and out of business. Every effort has been made, if not to take the life of Jews, yet to deprive them of the means of life. The whole thing is almost unbelievable. And, yet, here are the facts.

THE CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

The Jew has been such a wanderer and has been such a vital force in every country of his sojourn that when he becomes the object of attack the blow causes pain everywhere. This is America, but the pogroms of Poland and Russia had their immediate reaction here, not among only the American Jews, but American Christians as well. The accession of ADOLPH HITLER, the leader of the National Socialists (who are not Socialists at all!), to a dictatorial power in the German Reich has been accompanied by acts of violence against Jews, so numerous and so atrocious as to call forth bitter protest from Israel scattered abroad and from Christian liberal leaders everywhere, Protestant and Catholic. If Herr Hitler's four-year lease of power (with possible extensions) fails to rebuild German unity and to re-establish the influence of the German state in world affairs, it is not unlikely that the ultimate cause of such failure will date from his hostility to the sons of Abraham, who are now as the sands of the sea in number, and who, even though dispersed on every shore, are everywhere Israel still: assertive, acquisitive, intelligent, force-

ful and bound together by a vital racial consciousness intensified by twenty centuries of persecution. The tyrant who regards them as men without a country is liable to find many countries ready to come to their defense.

THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY

Christian Ministers Protest Anti-Jewish Campaign

Some mention should be made, even so long after the event, of the declaration of protest against the anti-Jewish campaign in Germany that was written by Dr. Fosdick and signed by twelve hundred Christian ministers. It was a significant pronouncement by a group whose judgment has weight not only because of their numbers but because of their standing. The statement breathes no holier-than-thou air. It acknowledges with humility our own shortcomings in tolerance and justice. But it challenges the principle which the Nazis and their leader have openly avowed, and denounces the inhuman program by which that policy has been put into practice. The facts cannot be waved aside by any general statements about the probability of exaggeration and the impertinence of criticizing the internal policies of a distant government. "For years Herr Hitler has preached relentless hatred against Jews. One of the fundamental doctrines of the Nazis, explicitly acknowledged by them, is that the Jews are poisonous bacilli in the blood of Germany to be stamped out like a plague. What the followers of Herr Hitler have proclaimed they now practice. Systematically they are prosecuting a 'cold pogrom' of inconceivable cruelty against our Jewish brethren, driving them from positions of trust and leadership, depriving them of civil and economic rights, deliberately condemning them, if they survive at all, to survive as an outlawed and excommunicated people, and threatening Jews with massacre if they so much as protest." The fact that the fire of anti-Jewish frenzy has partly burned itself out since these words were written does not make them the less true and pertinent. It is, above all, proper that Christians and those who wish well to Germany in her struggle for recovery and rehabilitation should let it be known that civilized opinion will not condone such barbarism on the ground of any consideration of economic or political expediency.

CHRISTIAN HERALD

Hitler Christianity

It has probably been good politics for Hitler to make an alliance with the old Protestant state church of Germany. And it probably looks like a good thing for the church. In pre-Republican Germany that church—with the blessing of the royal house—was a potent factor in the temporal affairs of the

nation. Its glory, however, went into eclipse with the Kaiser. This entente with the Nazis appears to offer a way whereby some of that glory can be recaptured. And the Hitler anti-Communistic, anti-Semitic program seems to offer a bulwark against the rising tide of German skepticism and unbelief.

It is likely to prove, however, a precarious defense. I have seen the Communistic drive against religion in actual operation in Russia. And I have seen the fruits of this alliance between Hitler and the church in Germany. In my opinion Hitler's espousal of Christianity is a more serious menace to religion than Communism's attack upon Christianity. Real religion has always managed to thrive under direct attack. But it always suffers when it is made—as Hitler in his anti-Semitic drive is making it—a shelter for violence.

—Stanley High.

THE CHRISTIAN LEADER

Marshaling Opinion Against Germany

The very day that the Jews were holding protest meetings in the United States and the Germans were sending cables broadcast to the Federal Council, Cardinal O'Connell, and everybody that they could think of, denying the necessity of the protest meetings, a Boston paper published an article sent by mail from Germany, giving an interview with Dr. Frick, a member of the Cabinet, telling what Germany intended to do "to get rid of the pestilential Jews."

To cruelty and despotism, the Germans added a stupidity as great as when they shot Edith Cavell or sank the Lusitania. Note the progress of events; wild threats in the campaign, mob violence after victory, attempted suppression of the news, then amazement that the world had found out and was crying out, and was taking practical action by way of boycott; denial of violence and quick institution of a boycott of the Jews in Germany, children kept from school, universities closed to Jews, Jewish professors dismissed, Jewish stores picketed. Keep still about it? No, we do not intend to keep still. Al Smith and Senator Wagner and Bishop McConnell and Bishop Manning, Catholics and Protestants, have shown us the way. There will be no slander against Germany, but there will be a steady statement of facts, a steady, restrained expression of disgust, a steady recognition of the rights of the Jewish people, a steady marshaling of the public opinion of the world. Germany already has felt it. She will continue to feel it. That is the one great good that has come out of it.

THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER

Germany Under Hitler

What has happened in Germany? "A new national Germany" was born at Potsdam on March 21. One Nazi leader

announces that "The Spirit of Weimar is dead; the spirit of Potsdam lives," another that "Prussianism and Nazism are identical." (*The Literary Digest*, April 1.)

What has been happening? A movement somewhat parallel to the Fascist has been growing in Germany under Hitler. It has been built upon hatred of the surrounding peoples, and particularly upon abuse of the Jews. Last summer I talked with persons in Germany. A leading banker, neither Jew nor German, said in effect, "Remember that Germany has been constantly engaged in civil war since the Versailles Treaty." If he was right, we have just seen the armed victory of one well-organized group, which probably is not even a majority of the German people. Shooting in the streets, "official murders" of men who dared to disapprove of the Nazi program, beatings and burnings, for months have been duly listed in the German papers. Hitler's own pronouncements advocating these procedures are widely known. Slow to believe that Hitler and his colleagues really meant what they said, the world is now amazed to find that the Hitlerites mean exactly what they have been saying.

What will happen next? A recent cartoon shows a sputtering candle, Hitler, upon the top of a barrel filled with dynamite.

There follow inevitable reflections. What would German culture and industry have been without the German Jews? Professor Einstein, Bruno Walter, Feuchtwanger? An American in Germany last summer tried to see his physician, to whom he had become much indebted. The physician was in prison and for no other reason than that he is a Jew. These are but illustrations. That the boycott ended in one day is well; but the economic and professional ruin of thousands of Jews remains unaltered. The Nazis intend to force the wearing of the yellow badge—the medieval sign that the Jews can never belong. In Roumania, the Jews have no legal rights unless granted them personally by Parliament. Germany may yet arrive at some such sinister achievement.

This whole Hitler procedure is unspeakably shocking. We believe in political security for all men, and in tolerance. In the past these ideals have been reverenced in Germany. Is the Nazi regime their end? Does Potsdam rise again to make a medieval Germany? We cannot believe it. Since protest we must, let us proclaim also our unshaken faith in the final triumph of tolerance as the way of life in Germany. Broadly speaking, Eastern Europe has become Soviet; Middle Europe tends to become Fascist; Western Europe, in part at least, together with the United States, stands for Democracy. As never before we should try to set our own house in order and practice our democratic principles. There is one thing we all can do in times like these. We can rededicate ourselves to the service of our own American institutions.

—Louis C. Cornish.

THE CHURCHMAN

The Madness of Hitlerism

The madness that is Germany under Hitlerism is possible only behind the cloak of censorship. It was predicted long ago by newspapermen that as soon as Hitler came into power the lid would go down on freedom of the press, as it has inevitably gone down under dictatorship. Whatever exaggeration there may have been in the atrocity stories which have come through from Germany is due only to that censorship. But taking into account such probabilities of exaggeration, it is no longer possible to discount the fact that Hitler's campaign against minorities in Germany is a brutal campaign, one almost beyond the reaches of imagination in a civilized nation of the twentieth century. The reaction against Germany is inevitable, not only in goodwill but in material form. It has already been felt heavily in the cancellation of millions of dollars' worth of orders by Americans. The pity is that Germans themselves, due to the press censorship, are in ignorance of the adverse world opinion which has been aroused. It is hoped that such stupidity as Hitler and his followers have shown will in the end mean the downfall of this false leadership. Hitler's attempt to create a "German Christian" nationalistic church is in accord with his other asinities. As Dr. Sockman said last Sunday, "The reported aims of the Hitlerized 'German Christian' church are so sinister and socially dangerous as to challenge belief. It is the old un-Christian method of trying to kindle the fires of religious loyalty with the fuel of hate. That is a recurrence of war-time technique and tends to revive the fears that the church can still be made an ally of mailed fists. While Hitler himself may be more of a museum piece than a real menace, even his temporary success raises the serious question of whether Christianity is stronger than narrow nationalism." Referring to the same effort Dr. Fosdick said, "That is an exhibition of stupidity, which, alas!—as all friends of Germany will deeply regret—has in the esteem of the world lost that nation in fifteen days a large part of what it has been trying to recover for fifteen years." If stupidity were less common there would be greater hope that Hitler would fail in his effort to edit Christianity for Germany.

THE CONGREGATIONALIST AND HERALD OF GOSPEL LIBERTY

Jews in Germany

The entire Christian constituency that this paper represents will, we believe, join with us in assuring our Jewish friends and fellow citizens that we stand with them, and for

them, in protest against the barbarous and incredible tyranny to which, according to trustworthy reports, Jews, simply because they are Jews, are being subjected in Germany. Hitlerism, whatever it may possibly offer for Germany in other directions, stands condemned for its encouragement of the spirit of hate and for its uncivilized attitude toward a group within the state. While Germany is demanding a new place of equality among the nations, it is unfortunate that so much is apparently happening with the approval of the most powerful forces in the nation, that places that country in a position of inequality in the matter of well-ordered democratic government. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that there is a re-emergence of that spirit and action which the world designated as "Prussianism" (though it was never confined either to Prussia or to Germany), and which created a world reign of terror.

We have never taken the view that Germany was wholly responsible for the World War, which came, in fact, as the result of a long course of militaristic rivalry and of imperialistic sins and purposes which other nations had shared. At the present hour, indeed, we would warn our fellow countrymen against the dangers of false propagandism. Isolated events may be easily exaggerated into general conditions, and the necessary acts of a government in defending itself or in maintaining order may be exaggerated into deeds and policies of deliberate tyranny. At the same time it would appear that there is plain warrant for the view that the rights and liberties of Jews and others in Germany, as well as in their actual lives and possessions, are seriously endangered, not only by overt acts, but by the studied and purposeful policy of Hitler and the force of imperialistic reaction that are backing him.

Every lover of his fellow men is interested in the welfare and the recovery of Germany. The peace and welfare of the world depend increasingly upon the welfare of every nation. But the peace and welfare of the nations, and of each nation, depend, also, upon the development among every people of the type of government devoted to the protection of the lives and just interests of all. The suppression of the rights and liberties, and the endangering of the lives in Germany, of Negroes in America, or of any group in any land, is subversive of the world's hope of peace and prosperity. It is a matter of concern for the League of Nations, which, despite its defects and weaknesses, is the only medium of established and continuous international comity. We hope that the League of Nations will face squarely the facts of racial discrimination and terrorism as they are related not only in relation to the Jews in Germany, but to similar groups in other countries. The situation of the Jews in Germany at the present hour, however, is such as to call forth immediate protest, and it is our hope that such protest will be so widespread and definite as to be effective in producing just, if not tolerant, attitudes.

THE EPWORTH HERALD

Jew and Gentile

There is real danger that nominal followers of Him who was done to death by the narrowness and bigotry of men shall themselves become guilty of the same kind of narrowness and bigotry.

Just now the newspapers are making a good deal of the brutal treatment the Jews are subject to in Germany. Of course there are those who offer to explain and present alibis. But wherever men mistreat their fellow men, whether because of national, racial, or religious differences, they are doing violence to the spirit of Christ, and cannot claim to be Christian.

This is as true of oppression in India, the enslaving of black people in Africa, of Jim Crow car-ism in the South, as it is of the pogroms in Europe. We are a long way from being a Christian nation or a Christian civilization as long as smoldering intolerance and bigotry can be so quickly fanned into flames of hate that lead to lynchings or pogroms. Before we can become Christian at this particular point we must go through the old-fashioned formula of confession, repentance, and restitution. And it is only in Jesus Christ himself that we can find the remedy for this terrible plague of intolerance.

It will help us to realize that Jesus was a Jew. Perhaps we ought to have a ritual in our churches which would make us declare along with the Apostles' Creed the fact that Jesus was born of a Jewish mother, raised in a Jewish home, went to a Jewish Synagogue, and worshipped the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

If this suggestion stirs you to indignation perhaps you ought to examine your own heart and read your New Testament again.

It is true that "he came unto his own and his own received him not," and that he was persecuted and hounded to death by his Jewish countrymen. But it is also true that his friends were all Jews, that Peter, James, and John and all the disciples and Paul, who published to the world the message of the gospel, were all Jews. It is also true that the Gentiles, non-Jews, became the chief persecutors of these messengers of the gospel and of the early church.

A proper reading of the New Testament, the Old Testament, and of history would make it easier for us to give to the Jewish people the honor they deserve.

EXTENSION MAGAZINE

Jews and Christians

But there can be no doubt that Germany, under Hitler, is persecuting the Jews in a manner that can neither be condoned or defended. There may have been no such cruel bar-

barities inflicted, no such vile outrages perpetrated as have been reported in the press, but there has been harsh treatment and enough rough handling of Jews in Germany to arouse Christian feelings of pity and resentment. To attempt to drive out 600,000 Jews, to confiscate their property, to boycott their stores, to forbid them to practice their studies or professions, or gentiles to deal with them, to deny them the right to appear in the streets, to make it impossible for them to live, or even to exist—these things may not be catalogued as physical cruelties in the archives of governments, but they spell suffering, death and extermination just the same. We Catholics know something of these things. We are not unacquainted with persecution—proscriptions, penal laws, and political disabilities.

THE LIVING CHURCH

Persecution and Intolerance

As we intimated in a recent editorial, it behooves us to exercise caution in too readily accepting the reports of anti-Jewish atrocities in Germany. But subsequent reports have made it clear that Hitler and his followers are fully determined to divest the Jews of all power in the political and economic life of the Reich, and to deprive them of their civil rights as well. Apparently only the intervention of President von Hindenburg has for the time being placed a limit on the Nazi campaign of persecution, against which protests have arisen from Jew and Gentile alike in every part of the civilized world.

Among the many voices raised in protest, that of Bishop Manning is especially worthy of note, for he had the courage not to limit his condemnation to the present persecution in Germany, but to extend it to all racial and religious oppression, wherever it may be and by whomsoever it is perpetrated.

"We are here," he told the vast audience in Madison Square Garden, "to condemn and denounce racial or religious persecution, whoever may be guilty of it, in Germany or elsewhere, and we must not forget the tyrannical and cruel persecution carried on against those representing all religious faiths, and the brutal attempt to stamp out all religion, which still continues under the Soviet government in Russia. Lifting up our voices against such wrongs, we cannot be silent against the tyrannies and persecutions of the Soviet government. We declare that such persecution in Germany or in Russia or anywhere is inhuman, intolerable, and unworthy of civilized men. And I take this opportunity to say that in my judgment such action against the religious rights of men as that now continuing in Russia should not be condoned or countenanced, or given moral

support, by any country which stands for liberty, or by any individual who loves right and justice.

"None of us, whether we are Jews or Christians, none of us who call ourselves Americans, have the right to be indifferent to such acts. Such action against any race or group of men anywhere in the world is the concern of all of us because those men are our brothers and have the same rights before God that we have."

Those are stirring words, and they apply equally well to racial and religious intolerance whether it manifest itself in Germany or Russia, Mexico or the Vatican, or even, on occasion, in our own nation.

THE LUTHERAN

A secondary phase of citizenship is the protection a government claims the right to exercise for its nationals who dwell under the jurisdiction of another power. It has been the misfortune of the Jews since the year 130 A. D., when their dispersion from Palestine was ordered by the Roman emperor, to have no government of their own. It is the crime of European nationalism that advantage has been taken time and again of this "alierness" to proscribe and persecute them. It has been more often their virtues than their weaknesses that have made them objects of spoilation, cruelty, segregation and massacre. That a tenacious loyalty to the traditions of their fathers has distinguished them from Gentiles and Christians has frequently been a brutal excuse and no adequate reason for preying upon them. Even modern governments have resorted to ancient vicious precedents as a warrant to discriminate against them in the sphere of civic rights. The present administration in Germany can complain that a minority segment of its citizens entered its borders from contiguous countries without permission during post-war years and that through political alliances and economic manoeuvres these newcomers have obtained unearned and disproportionate authority. But justification for wholesale discrimination against the Jews as citizens has not been produced. One hopes reports of it are exaggerated.

THE NEW OUTLOOK

Germany Takes Notice

The German Government is expressing strong resentment over the charges of Jew-baiting brought against the new regime. But Chancellor Hitler has for years been filling the air with furious outcries against the Jews, and Germany has long been tacitly endorsing crimes committed in the name of anti-Semitism. Hitler's unblushing imitation of the old Prussian

bluster has lead him to talk wildly of vengeance on all those abroad who had contributed to Germany's defeat, and on all those at home who "had misled and cheated the people." But even Herr Hitler lives in the new Germany, and in nothing has this fact been so strikingly evidenced as in his furious rush to assure the world that he meant no harm to the Jews. The first vengeful threats uttered and executed by both Nordics and Nazis were suddenly muffled when the wires began to click with stories of protest from every nation in which the brutal instincts have been put in subjection to the humane. Minister Goering rushed to the defense of the German Government with a long speech full of excuses which, as the *New York Times* declared, only accused. His protestations did not by any means clear the German people of the brutalities with which they had been charged. There is a certain amount of satisfaction and of ground for hope in that the Germany of Hitler does really care what the world thinks about her. And the sudden, blazing indignation of men and women in every nation crying out against class hatred and race prejudice anywhere, is surely a sign that the heart of this old world is morally and spiritually sound.

OUR PORTION

The New World

The world took immediate cognizance of the outrages committed against the Jews in Germany, and began to pillory the actual savagery, and the potential threats to be launched. The papers of America took up the cudgels to arraign before the world a cynical betrayal of power. In fact, world opinion quickly formed, and equally as quickly registered against the cruel and senseless crusade of anti-Semitism. It was natural to overlook the action taken months ago by the Catholic hierarchy of Germany which denounced in unmeasured terms the stupid cruelty of Hitler and his cohorts. The fact remains, however, that the bishops of Germany took the lead to head off what was to be a pogrom only because it was to be a pogrom.

THE PRESBYTERIAN BANNER

German Psychology and Logic

The reports coming from German newspapers giving their reaction to the boycott of the Jews throws a revealing search-light into German psychology and logic. They are bad interpreters of public opinion outside of Germany. Of course, these papers are not free to express their opinions, and are in the same class with the shackled press of Italy and Russia. One Nazi organ, *Der Angriff*, gave out the following: "For nine hours the German people held a clinched fist under the

nose of world Jewry. With exemplary discipline, calm and order, the boycott of all Jewish establishments was carried through, proclaiming all the atrocity tales as lies." By closing up all Jewish establishments, putting yellow tags on Jewish offices and houses, and beating Jews and leaving them wounded in the streets, by brown-shirted Hitlerite soldiers, the tales told in other countries of German abuse of the Jews were proved to be lies! Ransacking Einstein's house and seizing his \$7,000 bank balance refuted all stories of German injustice.

Another Nazi organ that was once of influential international standing, the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, said: "Rarely has an event of domestic politics attracted the tense expectation of the entire world to quite the extent as Saturday's boycott against the anti-German agitation abroad. There should be general satisfaction that the measures against Jewish businesses, although carried out with pragmatic vigor, were executed in a quiet manner. At any rate, foreign countries have received a new lesson from this disciplined conclusion of the boycott." They verily have received a new lesson from this furious and inhumane outbreak against Jews, as to German psychology and logic. While gradually growing into kinder feelings towards Germany, they see that it is still governed by the old German policy and means of frightfulness by which it thinks to alarm other peoples with its old habit of swashbuckling up and down the streets of the world. It has about undone all that it has gained in the last few years, and now it will be kept under surveillance and restraint. It has been calling for restoration to equality with other nations in armament, but now it will not get it. That Germany, land of our ancient forebears, gifted with genius and leading the world in mathematics and magic, should again commit suicide—it is a great pity.

REFORMED CHURCH MESSENGER

The Persecuted Jews

A dear brother in the ministry writes: "I regret exceedingly that an editor of a Christian paper has not more judgment than to publish statements about the persecution of Jews in Germany, such as appeared in the *Messenger*." He then goes on to point out, to his own satisfaction, that our country is so full of shortcomings that the purported "Schrecklichkeit" of Mr. Hitler is mild in comparison. He reminds us again of the proverb about glass houses and stone throwing. It has certainly never been our policy to give America a clean bill of health. God knows our record in the treatment of Indians, Negroes, Jews, and some "foreigners," is discreditable enough. Nevertheless, we cannot conceive of our genial and benevolent President warning the parents of America that, unless they fall in line with the policies of the party now in power, the

State will take their children away from them and bring them up according to its own ideas and for its own needs.

As for Germany, although we have been pelted with voluminous propaganda designed to show that all is now "sweetness and light" in that country, the evidence now in hand makes it clear that no word published in the *Messenger* was unwarranted. A great service has been rendered by the publication of the "White Book" in which American Jewish leaders state a case that is quite convincing. Moreover, Mr. Michael Williams, the brilliant editor of the leading Roman Catholic journal *The Commonweal*, comes back from a dispassionate study of life in Germany today to report that "the Nazi persecution far exceeds any other persecution known in modern times." He declares that it is simply not true that this persecution and ostracism of Jews has been done away with or materially modified, and concludes: "If the Jews of Germany are to be rescued, if their position is to be ameliorated, it is vital that an international body be set up qualified to speak and act for the Jews of the world." Such reports as this cannot be set aside by abuse of America or by attempts to whitewash Hitlerism. The world has a right to know the facts. As Christians we cannot condone terrorism anywhere—not even in the dear old Fatherland.

THE RELIGIOUS TELESCOPE

Germany—A Warning

What has been going on in Germany is a matter of vital concern to the United States. By the consent or the acquiescence of a majority of the people that country is in the grip of a dictatorship that is but little removed from medieval absolute monarchy. Hitler is a ruthless ruler, a Catholic in sympathy, and has little tolerance for people of other faiths. The reports of his persecution of Jews may be lacking in accuracy and may not always be taken at face value, but that they have their basis in fact there can be no doubt. Even the great Professor Einstein has not been free from the relentless iron hand. Jewish barristers, judges, physicians, and professors have been removed from their positions and some of the ablest men of the country have been brought to desperation. Many suicides have occurred among them. Should the dictator find that this sort of program is tolerated, we may well shudder at what step may be taken next.

What makes this a matter of concern to America is that what can take place in Germany is by no means a remote possibility here. We have seen evidences of a state of mind, particularly during the abnormal period through which we have been passing, that may well cause concern. The great war which was to make the world "safe for democracy" has come

nearer making it safe for dictatorship. When a leader comes to a place of power amidst psychological conditions that give him a free hand there is not merely a temptation, but there is a tendency, to exploit those conditions for all or more than they are worth. Then let that leader be backed by a subsidized press, the radios, and practically all other conceivable agencies of propaganda, and unexpected things may happen overnight, especially after sufficient time has elapsed for the propaganda to create the required state of mind.

People among us are saying that a good dictator may be better than a cumbersome legislative machine. It is quite possible that a single mind unrestrained may accomplish some things more effectively than a legislative body, but a dangerous chance is taken when any individual is clothed with dictatorial power. The good man of today is the possible dangerous man of tomorrow. At best no single mind can be representative of the whole people of a great nation. And history has repeatedly demonstrated that even good government can be no satisfactory substitute for free government.

Germany has demonstrated how quickly a great country can go wrong in an attempted solution of its problems. Under such conditions evangelical Christianity is almost sure to be among the first sufferers. A free church is the greatest molder of sentiment in any country, and it is but natural that it would not be regarded with favor by a despotic government. While the Protestant church in Germany has not been as directly in the path of the political hurricane as the Jewish part of the population, it is suffering intensely, and those interested in Protestant Christianity can but view the future with grave apprehension. The safety of any country lies in an intelligent devotion of the people to its institutions and ideals. It is a sad omen when the voice of the church is ignored and morality is made subordinate to material and political interests or ambitions.

REVELATION

Love the Jews

The Lord Jesus Christ was a Jew. We will never understand His ministry fully if we fail to see that fact. In recounting the privileges of the Jews, Paul says, "Of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, Who is over all, God blessed forever." (Rom. 9:5.)

For this reason, if for no other, the true Bible Christian will love the Jews. The Gospel was given "to the Jew first." At the present time the Jews are feeling their race consciousness more than at other times. The tumult in Germany has echoed round the world. For that reason Christians should go out of their way to speak kindly to the Jews and to tell them whenever possible, that although their greatest day of tribulation lies before them their greatest glory is also future.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Germany and the Jews

Friends of Germany and of humanity are deeply concerned over developments of the past few weeks in Germany's political affairs. Entrenched in newly acquired dictatorial powers, the demands of Hitler are vociferous and his policies most alarming. America in the past few weeks has been stirred to its very center by Nazi persecution of all opposition, and especially of the Jews. In spite of the strict censorship of the news, the suppression of antagonistic papers, and the effort to keep the world ignorant of the unchristian actions within the state being taken, enough has leaked out to cause the world to gasp with horror and to rise up in protest with all its might against the atrocities inflicted and proposed.

The mass meetings and protests in other countries against these persecutions of the Jews have stirred the ruling powers of Germany to deny any atrocities and to charge falsification of facts and "propaganda" of her enemies. These cries of "propaganda" against the Hitler government remind one of many emanating from that country during the World War and strike him as arising from similar sources. Many of Germany's noblest citizenry have been immolated. Doctor Einstein, noted scientist returning from America, has taken refuge in Holland, refusing to set foot in his native land again as long as the atrocious and unmitigated treatment of his brother Jews continues.

The sympathetic attitude of Christian America and England shown in protests and mass fellowship meetings should have some effect upon Germany and is in accord with the finer feelings of all the world. All Americans are in hearty accord with the action of our State Department in voicing the protest of the United States. Germany should know, and appreciate, that this is not an age that can sit idly by and look calmly on policies and methods characteristic of the dark ages.

SOUTHERN CHURCHMAN

German Developments

What Christian can read the news from Germany today without a blush of shame? The worst is that we will have these practices laid, not where they belong, upon the savage souls that still flourish in pagan loyalty after nineteen hundred years of Christianity, but on Christians.

It is sometimes good for us to learn a lesson a long way off. We can see the hopelessness and helpless cause that is based upon fanatical racial hatred. We can see a great nation casting off and throwing away some of her priceless heritage. An Einstein is not spared in the path of the beast of hatred.

We in America have not always been free of such emotion-

al outbursts of narrow bigotry. We have allowed movements as sordid and hateful as Hitler's persecution of the Jews to be a part of our civilization. Maybe the lesson many miles away will serve us well if we can learn to banish all thoughts that might even tolerate such action.

Of course the lesson of the Cross has never been learned or we would not have the present phenomena. It is never successful to use intolerance. Rome persecuted Christians and lost the Empire. France persecuted the Huguenots and it is a question today whether France has much religion left, though it was to protect her religion she adopted intolerance.

While things are in this hectic state it will be our duty to pray for the persecuted and the persecuting in Germany. We hope the fine Lutheran Church will not lose her soul to the present political victors. That would do harm to all who love Protestantism throughout the world. We pray that the race which Our Father in Heaven chose to give birth to the Saviour will be eventually protected and allowed to add their great heritage of culture and ability to a better and more Christian Germany.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

The Sufferings of the Jews

The anti-Jewish movement in Germany has been marked by suddenness and comprehensiveness and thoroughness. It has the marks of a permanent policy. It is not the mere flare-up of prejudice and excitement. This makes it the more sinister. It means that in that land where the Jews have been most firmly established in modern times, where their power in press and finance and all other forms of activity has been so prodigious, a systematic plan is being carried out to overthrow and remove them. If such things can happen in Germany, where the forms and machinery of culture at least touch the highest point, what may not happen when the mania spreads to other less advanced lands—to Poland and Hungary and Austria and Roumania?

How terrible the humiliation to Jews everywhere to be thus pilloried in Germany, to be singled out as a peculiar people, an outcast people, undesired in all lands! How overpowering the conclusion that this experience must bring to them, that they are given the choice of misery and poverty with contempt on the one hand, as in Russia and Poland, or on the other hand, of wealth, culture and power, as in Germany, with hatred and boycott.

TRUTH

Hitler Hits

A former Austrian citizen, representing not more than fifty-two per cent of the German electorate, struck out with

his mailed fist against the Jews in Germany, only to find that his wild barbaric lurching had staggered the Jew and the Christian all over the world. No nation can stand by and see a people insulted and reviled because of the particular race from which they have sprung.

Before and after the declaration of War by America in 1917, there was a strong anti-German feeling in New York. Because some German armies "blundered" through Belgium, certain Americans, forgetful of the way in which American troops had blundered into Cuba and the Philippines and of the "blundering" way in which the Panama Canal Zone was obtained, decided that the error or terror of the German army was the error or terror of the German race. German operas were tabooed because they were German. Men and women were reviled because they bore German names. In the mind of some fanatics, as in the columns of our hired press, the title "German" became synonymous with the title "Hun."

German citizens living in the United States rightly resented this anti-racial fanaticism. It is one thing to oppose a people because of some definite activities. It is quite another thing to oppose a people because of their race. The Jews have a right to have their race respected. The Jews of Germany were loyal citizens of Germany hundreds of years before the Austrian line from which Adolf Hitler springs ever came into being. The Jews had a culture and a civilization and a pure religion thousands of years before the Teutonic tribes even emerged from savagery. Mr. Hitler's philosophy of race pride and race perpetuation strangely ignores these racial facts.

Mr. Hitler, in fact, fails to realize the dangerous conclusions that he is begetting in the minds of men. Many of us Americans have believed the reports of Belgian atrocities to have been exaggerated. Mr. Hitler's fanaticism tends to make those reports more creditable. If, so the thinking American will argue, Adolf Hitler can so persecute Jewish citizens of Germany because of their race or even political opposition, then assuredly the march of German troops through Belgium was not in the manner of playing children across a lawn.

As this issue goes to print, Mr. Hitler has denied the Jewish persecutions. His denial sounds very weak along side of his repeated anti-Semitic utterances. Moreover, his denial comes fast upon a world-wide protest on the part of Jews and Catholics and Protestants that he cease his inhuman activities. One thing is certain. The Jews will survive this persecution as they have survived so many in the past. The Jewish mind and brain and heart will be still contributing to culture and civilization when the name and personality of Adolf Hitler are long buried in the final resting place of all tyrants.

—Edward Lodge Curran, Ph.D.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Christian and Jew

The recent persecution of Jews in Germany was deplorable. Before its occurrence one would hardly have believed it possible in a country with the moral and cultural attainments of Germany. Had the Germans not been suffering from a political hysteria, which permitted an adventurer of Hitler's type to become dictator, it could not have happened. Hitler and the persecution are the outgrowth of the same condition. Before his accession people did not take seriously his denunciation of the Jews. They regarded it as a political trick with publicity in view and a cheap bid for the support of the ignorant and prejudiced. A great share of the German population was as astonished as the rest of the world when the new dictator began to give effect to his announced Jewish hostility.

A number of Jews suffered severely in the brief persecution but not in vain. The foolish and cruel stroke of a dictator blinded by the conceit of his own importance and power has been overruled for good. The storm of protest which immediately gathered in the civilized world was astonishing. Its force was so great that the dictator had to bow before it. The suddenness and force of the great storm present encouraging facts. Much has been said and with partial truth about the moral decadence of modern civilization, but no one can say that we are hopeless so long as such capacity for moral indignation exists. We have not become so selfish, indifferent and materialistic as to remain unmoved in the presence of a great wrong. There is also a refreshing illustration of the power of public opinion. In these days when the conferring of dictatorial powers upon rulers has become a popular sport with the nations, there are many who view the situation with alarm as likely to destroy popular liberties and re-establish old-fashioned tyranny. The promptness with which the world halted Hitler's pogrom shows that our modern dictators do not have a free hand for putting into effect their personal whims and prejudices.

To the Jews themselves the readiness of the world to espouse their cause must have been encouraging. After having suffered from centuries of direct and indirect persecution, mostly at the hands of Christians, this manifestation of appreciation by the world was doubtless as a cup of cold water to a thirsty soul. One of the best things which has come out of the affair is the centering of attention upon the relation between Christian and Jew. Much is being said in a spirit of contrition about the record of the Christian treatment of the Jew which Peter Ainslee calls, "the darkest page in human history." The protest against the anti-Jewish campaign of Germany, written by Dr. Fosdick and signed by 1200 Christian ministers, contains a note of humility over our own failures in

tolerance and justice. Dr. Moehlman of the Colgate-Rochester divinity school has written a book, "The Christian-Jewish Tragedy," in which he discounts the New Testament record of the crucifixion in a mistaken effort to make out the best possible case for the Jews by minimizing their part in the crucifixion.

No informed person tries to excuse past or present mistreatment of the Jew. He admits something of the great debt of the Christian to his Jewish brother. He knows that more than contempt or indifference is due to the people who gave us the Old Testament, whose blood ran in the Saviour's veins and those of the apostles; and for whose redemption Paul was willing to make the supreme sacrifice. The present attention given the relations between the Christian and the Jew will lead to its improvement. The fundamental position of each is radically different, but there is a vast deal in common. The conversion of the Jew to the Christian faith is not progressing as rapidly as we desire, but even so there ought to be and there will be a growing mutual appreciation between Christian and Jew in building moral values into the life of the world.

—S. E. I.

THE WATCHMAN-EXAMINER

Sympathy for German Jews

For many years the world has been moving toward democracy, but Hitlerism in Germany has turned back the clock of time and by legislation has established an absolute autocracy. A new law has been passed, which forbids Jews or those with Jewish family affiliations from holding office in the Reich, the states, municipalities or any other kind of public corporation or institution. This includes people who are connected by family ties with those of Jewish blood. This is supposed to affect between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 people, including professors in educational institutions, curators of museums and scholars generally of international fame. This is simply the working out in detail of the brutality and terrorism that so shocked civilized countries a few months ago. In free America it is hard for us to understand the political revolution that gave control of a great nation, such as Germany, to a medievalism that has been outgrown by all the other civilized countries of the world.

THE WORLD TOMORROW

Hitler and Hindenburg

President Hindenburg, despite his extraordinary prestige, seems destined to play the part of a King Victor Emmanuel to Hitler's Mussolini. The presidential decree which stipulated that the old imperial flag shall be substituted for the re-

publican one and that the fascist flag shall have the equal honor with the official banner marks the degree of the subservience of the presidency to fascism. The famous Article 48 of the Constitution under which this decree is supposedly authorized empowers the President to suspend constitutional provisions in cases of emergency. It could hardly be claimed that an emergency exists which requires the President to change the national emblem of Germany. The new decree merely marks the complete subservience of Hindenburg to Hitler.

Another proof of this capitulation is the unchecked anti-Semitism of the fascist movement, which Hindenburg attempted at first to restrain. It is now expressing itself in terms of consistent brutality and vindictiveness. The Fascists are pillaging the homes of prominent Jews, picketing Jewish commercial firms, preparing for a law which will expel Jews from the courts and from the bar and expatriating Jewish members of radical organizations. The virulence of this anti-Semitism in a nation which has a Jewish population of extraordinary intelligence and eminence in every field of science and art, is a mark of the pathological character of the German mind in the present moment.

But the hysteria of the movement cannot alone explain such a phenomenon. The fact that a cultured nation like Germany is indulging in race bigotries which one might expect in Roumania but hardly in an advanced nation reveals the political and social incompetence of the German people. They have a high degree of intelligence but they are not very adept in the field of politics. Every economic interest and every racial antipathy has a whole philosophy built around it in German thought. Thus a high degree of intelligence does not mitigate but rather accentuates political animosities. Therefore Germany goes through one fratricidal struggle after another and the end is not yet. The English are on the whole not as intellectual as the Germans but they are more sane. Sanity depends not upon the brilliance of the intellect but upon the right coordination of the mind with the natural impulses of life. In Germany the rational demand for consistency merely results in every political position being developed to its final consistent absurdity.

The fascist terror will probably sweep over Germany with terrible force. The fears of a dominant class, which is darkly conscious of the fact that its hour of dissolution is near at hand, will express itself in the terror; and the reason of philosophers will tend to accentuate rather than mitigate the brutalities which fear has prompted.

ZIONS HERALD

The Danger of Fascism

Built on a foundation of prejudice and hate, Hitlerism in Germany sweeps further along the road to inevitable disaster.

Anti-Semitism, fanned to a white heat during Hitler's ascendancy, has plunged Germany centuries backward through the perpetration of unbelievable crimes against Jewish citizens. Further, the mental caliber of the leaders of the new government was revealed in their conduct of the nation-wide boycott against the Jews, which was suddenly limited by the Nazi Government to one day with the amazing announcement by Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, minister of "popular enlightenment and propaganda," that a respite of three days—until 10 A. M. Wednesday—would follow in order that the world might "recant its anti-German agitation." "If atrocity propaganda in the outside world has completely ceased by that time," says Dr. Goebbels in a statement to the press, "the National Socialist Party declares itself prepared to restore normal conditions. If that should not be the case, the boycott will be resumed Wednesday with unprecedented force and vehemence and continued until foreign wire-pullers arrive at better counsel." Such attempted intimidation of world opinion is bound to strike fire in countries where free speech and a free press are a prized heritage. Hitler is not of the stuff of which a good dictator—if there is such a thing—is made. He is a demagogue who grew out of the soil of a Germany seething with the economic and political injustices of the Versailles Treaty. For fourteen years the German nation has been held in a state of artificial inferiority, loaded with debt, stripped of possessions, and denied free trade. No people on earth, certainly not the ambitious and industrious Germans, could remain contented and peaceful under such enforced serfdom. Fascism offered action, it promised international equality and national prosperity. The anti-Semitic campaign is but a phase of the intense national flame the Fascists have kindled. The greatest danger in the German situation is not its anti-Jewish propaganda, unjust and inhuman as this is, but the nationalism that is blazing throughout the land. At present it is turned inward at the stranger within its gates. At any time it may leap outward and embroil the world in the inferno of another war.